

his efforts that characterize his expertise and talent as a public official. Throughout his career, he has been the driving force behind many other special projects, including the Sharon Johnston Park; Chase Industrial Park; an expanded county water system; senior citizen and nutrition centers; low-interest housing loans; the restoration of historic cemeteries; and, of course, the Hazel Green Public Library. Since being appointed a Madison County license inspector by Alabama Governor Albert Brewer in 1969, Tillman Hill has been living proof that one individual's concern and commitment can make a tremendous and lasting difference in people's lives.

I am proud to commend and congratulate my good friend Tillman Hill for his many years of service—service which reflects great credit upon him, his community, and his State. The success of the Hazel Green Library will long serve as only one testament to his selfless determination and generosity. He truly embodies the very best of what public service is all about.

A TRIBUTE TO THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA FOR WORLDWIDE GOOD DEEDS

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, at a time when citizen participation and volunteerism are uniquely important in addressing problems of our society, with the contemplated reduction of governmental expenditures I consider it worthwhile to note the important humanitarian contributions of The Sovereign Order Of Malta and its American foundation, the American Knights and Dames.

Some of the important activities of The Knights of Malta have been called to my attention by a longstanding friend and distinguished Philadelphia lawyer, Mr. James Binns:

(1) This year the Order plans to support the Medical Research Center of New York University, for finding and improving the care, and prevention of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders, which unfortunately affects more and more people every day.

(2) This year also, a 400-bed hospital and a biomedical university is now under construction in Frosinone, Italy, for all students from throughout the world.

(3) For Christmas 1994 the Order donated food, toys and clothing to an entire orphanage in Oradea, Rumania.

(4) In 1992 in the State of Nueva Esparta, Venezuela, the Order donated medical equipment to the Civil Defense and to the Firefighter. In 1993, substantial humanitarian help was sent by the Order to Fiume, Yugoslavia, through the Red Cross.

(5) In 1988 a "Proclamation" was signed by Prime Minister Yitzchak Shamir, with a special Ambassador of the Order, sent to Israel, to encourage the spirit of "Vatican II", that Jews and Christians are brothers and sisters under Almighty God. Further, to uphold through dialogue, commerce and diplomacy, the World Council of Nations to recognize the State of Israel's inherent rights through Her Sovereign History in perpetuity, as stated in the United Nations Resolution of November 29, 1947.

(6) In 1984 in Rome, Italy, the Order collected over a million US dollars for the Insti-

tute, "Regina Elena", specializing in the research of the Hyperthermic Treatment or Cancer.

(7) In 1980 the Belgium branch of the Order donated medical assistance to Africa and a special machine to be utilized for the search of water.

(8) In 1978, in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, an orphanage for 900 children, was founded with complete facilities, including a school up to the 8th grade.

These humanitarian contributions continue activities of The Knights of Malta which originated with the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in 1099 with assistance to the wounded when the first crusaders arrived at the Holy City.

After being expelled from Jerusalem in 1291, the Knights established a new headquarters of the Order at Limassol in Cyprus until 1309. They fortified the city and laid down the armaments regulations for the vessels carrying traders and pilgrims to the Holy Land. In doing so, the maritime power of the Order was established and the Mediterranean Sea was substantially liberated from pirates.

The Knights continuously played a significant role with the siege of the Island of Rhodes in 1309, the defeat of the Ottomans who attempted to seize Rhodes in 1480 and the later battle with the Ottomans in 1522 resulting in the Knights leaving for Candia in 1523. After the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V ruler of Spain and Sicily granted the Island of Malta to the Order, the Knights of Malta reigned over Malta until 1798. After the surrender of the Island to Napoleon Bonaparte in 1798, many of the Knights returned to their own countries forming different commanderies.

During the 19th and 20th centuries, The Knights of Malta sought to avoid political affairs in order to pursue philanthropic activities which its 40,000 members do to this day.

The Knights of Malta, with its unique history over nine centuries, have established a model for worldwide efforts which should inspire other individuals and organizations to do similar good deeds.

THE PEACE PROCESS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, last week, British Prime Minister Major and Irish Prime Minister Bruton took an important step toward lasting peace in Northern Ireland. The two leaders unveiled a framework document designed to serve as the basis for negotiations on Northern Ireland's future.

I believe it is important to note, as both Mr. Major and Mr. Bruton have, that the framework document is not a done deal or final settlement to be imposed, but a basis for talks among all the parties of Northern Ireland. This assurance should go a long way toward putting the various parties on the negotiating track.

Both the British and Irish Governments have signaled their willingness

to make some difficult compromises in the name of enduring peace and reconciliation—compromises that cut to the heart of each country's traditional constitutional doctrines and that could cost each government political support at home. I believe that Mr. Major and Mr. Bruton should be commended for their courage. Similarly, Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring, who was in Washington yesterday, deserves great credit for his efforts—in providing continuity and credibility to the process.

For its part, the British Government will propose changes to its constitutional legislation to ensure that the will of the majority of the people of Northern Ireland is respected in determining Northern Ireland's status. Similarly, the Irish Government will introduce and support proposals to end its constitutional claim to Northern Ireland. The document also proposes to create cross-border institutions, such as a North/South body with elected representatives from a Northern Ireland Assembly and the Irish Parliament.

The fate of the process now lies squarely in the hands of the various parties in Northern Ireland. I sincerely hope that they will not miss this historic opportunity to create a permanent peace. An editorial in Monday's Washington Post makes this point rather well, and I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 27, 1995]

AGENDA FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

British Prime Minister John Major and his Irish counterpart, John Bruton, took an important first step last week in opening negotiations for the permanent resolution of the Ulster crisis. The leaders released a frame work for talks that offers a set of opening suggestions they hope will lead to permanent reconciliation.

As usual, the Rev. Ian Paisley and his colleagues were not impressed. Blasting the agreement as a conspiracy to force Ulster Protestants into union with the Irish Republic, the 68-year-old hard-liner seeks to block talks before they begin. But other, younger men who might have stood with him in year past were more responsive. One leader of a Protestant paramilitary group rejected the Paisley position and announced that he is tired after 25 years of killing, and ready to talk. That sentiment was echoed by a Protestant member of the Senate of Northern Ireland whose own daughter was killed by an IRA bomb. If that view is widespread, there is reason for hope.

The framework announced is simply the opening move in what may be a protracted series of negotiations. Devise over 18 months of consultations between the British and Irish governments, the document suggests steps that could be taken to heal divisions in the province. The British, for example, want to create a new legislative assembly in Northern Ireland, with voting procedures that will protect the Catholic minority. The Irish government will support changes in that country's constitution that will revoke legal and political claims to the countries in the North. Both governments suggest the